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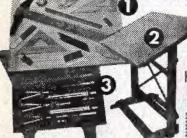
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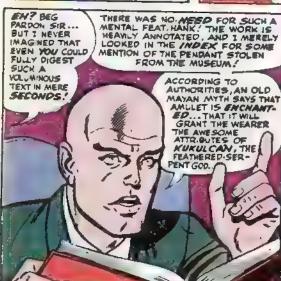










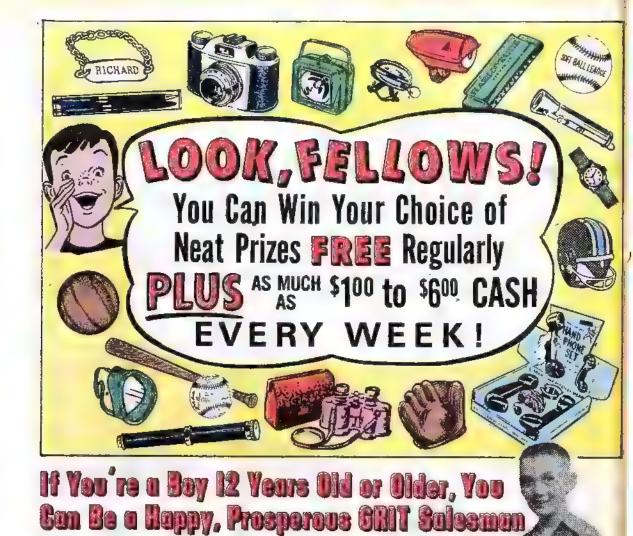








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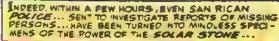
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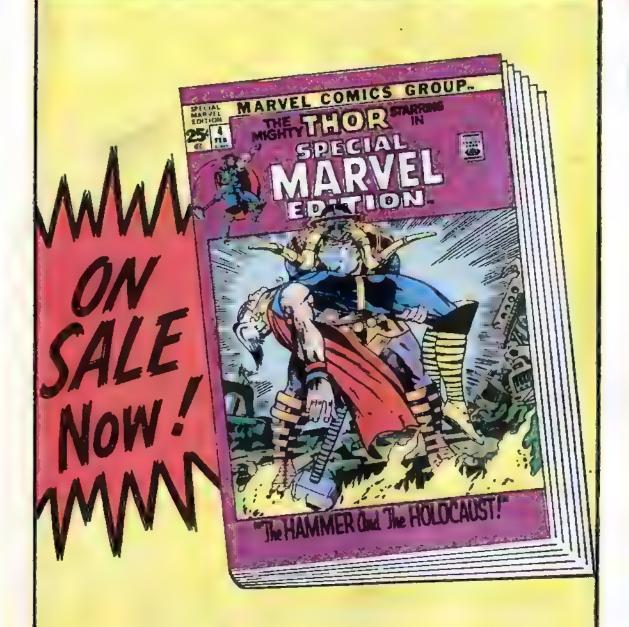






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THE SENSUOUS BULLPEN

(Or: Everything You Always Wanted To Know About - No, We Did That One Already, Didn't We?)

ITEM! You know how we're always tailing you that mighty Marvel is one of the hottest things going down on college campuses across the country? And maybe you thought we were just blowing our own horn, and that maybe the whole thing added up to three freshmen with a couple of extra coppers between them? Well, how's this for proof: a pithy miniarticle, reprinted in its entirety from the nation-wide Sunday supplement magazine Parade, dated August 1, 1971. And we guote:

"What are college students reading these days? The answer comic books

"On campuses all over America the best salers are THE MIGHTY AVENGERS THE INCREDIBLE HULK, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, THE FANTASTIC FOUR, and others of that lik

"Although today's comic-books still feature super-heroes who survive by super natural intervention, they have been transformed from the purely 'escape' kterature' of Flash Gordon to a relevant, new, and interesting art form. They even approach social commentary.

"On some campuses comic books have become so popular that they run the risk of acceptance by the Establishment At Princeton, for example, the Firestone Library boasts copies of SPIDER MAN"

There you have it — the whole magilla, down to the last period and participle. Now who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Higher (and Hipper) Education?

ITEM! Two magnificent Marvel mags take their first bows this time around and we've got a hunch you're gonna soon be clamoring for more, more, MORE of both of 'em You just gotta know we're talking first of all about our long-awaited TOMR OF DRACULA series - with art by GENE (The Dean) COLAN and story by Merry GERRY CONWAY (Or maybe we should write "Gerard F. Conway," like it says on all those fantasy paperbacks he's been penning.) -And, if your awestruck eyes haven't already been riveted to the color-splashed new hero who appears elsewhere on this. selfsame page, then we miss our guess - and our point! It's none other than the enigmatic entity once called only Hims but now and forever to be known as-WARLOCK! The much heralded team of THOMAS, KANE, and ADKINS has rejoined forces on this one - and you might just dig the result, in the far-out new series in our first big issue of MAR-VEL PREMIERE, now on sale! End of two for one plug!

MARVELOUS MINI-ITEMS! Didja hear about the awesome art program for underprivileged kids, held in recent weeks at New York's famous Guggenheim Museum? JOHN ROMITA, MARIE SEVERIN, HERB TRIMPE, and other Builpen luminaries were the hit of the long hot summer! . . Hey, guess what! STAN (The Man) LEE, who returns at last this

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Well, gang, by now you must all be as thoroughly confused about the cover price of our mixed-up little mags as we are. As you know, we recently went from 15r per ish to 25c, and then almost before the lnk was dry, zingo - we zeroed in on a figure of 20c - and that's where it's at right now Anyway, just so you don't think these monumental decisions are made by the toss of a coin. I figured it's time for one of our usual unabashedly obtuse explanations. Actually, the Bullpen and I comprise the ever-lovin' editorial department of munificent of Marvel, We editors, artists, writers, letterers, etc., keep busy trying to create the kind of comics which connoisseurs will cry for However, in another part of our vast globe-girdling organization is the mysterious, virtually unmentionable business department Deen within the hidden recesses of some closely-guarded inglenook it is they who must wrestle with such earthshattering decisions as how much to charge for our books, and how many keys to the washroom may be distributed amongst our loval laughable, lamentable little staff, it is they who dangle the dollars while we daily and dawdle among the drawing boards. But harken ye now to this passionate pledge, O compassionate one - no matter what the price, no matter what you chanceliors of the exchequer in their wisdom may decree, we vow to give thee always far more than thy money's worth in story art, and superhuman selfsacrifice For, no matter how the caliphs may divide the bread, we'll give you better comics 'cause we care about your head!

Excelsior!



month to scripting Spidey thrillers again. startled everybody by suddenly shaving off his beard the other day! We won't say he looks all that different with just a mustache - but the first day he showed up clean shaven for work, the security guard wouldn't let him in the door without an I.D ! Affable AL KURZROK, sometime Sgt. Fury scripter and fulltime production plodder, just got back from a wild weekend in voodoo haunted Haitr Hope you had a ball, A. K - but why'd you just shave off the beard on that doll with all the hatpins sticking in it? you don't recognize some of the far-out superheroes in this month's AVENGERS epic, it's 'cause some of 'em haven't been in a mighty Marvel comic since 19411 By that reckoning, Rascally ROY THOMAS must ve been reading our mags for a long, locooning time! Now that beshful BARRY SMITH is back in the States, he's finally found the time to take a vacation trip—back to Merrie Olde England! Or, as Captain America might've said in the long-distant past: "What the —?"

See you next time thru, crew!



FANTASTIC FOUR #119: Torch and the Thing battle alongside the mysterious Black Panther—for a secret that may destroy the world! Plus a mystery supervillan!

SPIDER-MAN #105: The coming of — The Spider Slayer! And if that doesn't clue you in that our wondrous wall crawler is in deadly danger — nothing will!

THOR =196: The quest for the Well at the Edge of the World! The fury of Kartag the Keeper! And then, before your eyes — Asgard falls! Pageantry with a punch!

AVENGERS #96. The startling wind up to the Kree Skrull War! A zillion surprise superheroes! And — Rick Jones conquers the universe! The wildest one yet!

HULK =148: At last! Our mountainpus man monster finds Jarella—the girl from the emerald atom! But what's the difference, for ~ "Tomorrow — the Sun Dias!"

CAPT. AMERICA and THE FALCON =146:

'Mission' Stop the Femme Force!' And that sijust what will happen — unless Cap léarns the identity of the Supreme Hydral Excitement plus!

DAREDEVIL #84. The night of the Assassin The cataclysmic climax, as of Hornhead fights an indestructible foel And introducing the creature called — Baal!

SUB-MARINER =46: Namor's quest finally ends — as he finds his long-lost father! But then, tragedy strikes — not to mention the sensational Sting Ray!

ASTONISHING TALES =10" War - in the savage land at the bottom of the world! Ka Zar and Zabu light as never before! This one is action all the way, people! SGT. FURY =95: "Seven Doomed Men" One of the earliest, most thrilling combat classics of all - as the Howlers take on the whole blamed Nazi army!

TOMB OF DRACULA =1: You've waited a long time for it — you've demanded it — and here it is! The most famous, most fearful vampire of all! Yes — Count Dracula lives!

MARVEL PREMIERE #1: This is it! The most mind staggering new feature of all! The Man Beast! The High Evolutionary! And starring — Him! Don't miss 'The Power of — The Warlock!'

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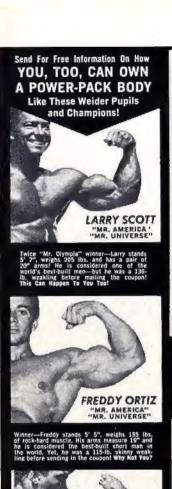
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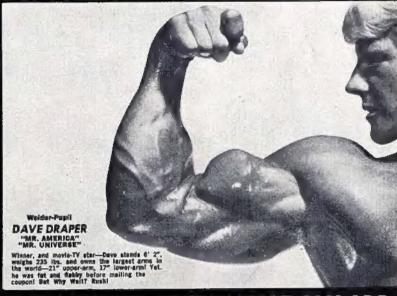
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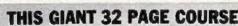


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